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The Legislative Branch

Shared Duties of the Senate and House of Representatives.

- Regulating money and trade, including
  - — printing or coining of money,
  - — borrowing of money by the government,
  - — levying and collecting taxes, and,
  - — regulating trade between states and with foreign countries;
- Providing for the national defense, including
  - — maintaining the Army, Navy and Air Force, and
  - — declaring war;
- Making laws regarding naturalization of persons seeking citizenship;
- Establishing post offices;
- Regulating the system of weights and measures; and,
- Passing laws to govern the District of Columbia, the nation's capital.

Responsibilities of the Senate

- Determining if impeached officials are innocent or guilty,
- Confirming Presidential appointments, and
- Ratifying treaties between the U.S. and other governments.

Responsibilities of the House of Representatives

- Introducing bills about the budget or taxes, and,
- Impeaching officials.

Powers the Legislative Branch does not have

- Tax exports;
- Pass trade laws which do not treat all states equally;
- Spend tax money without a law to authorize it;
- Authorize any title of nobility;
- Pass a law to punish someone for an act which was legal when the person did it; and,
- Pass any law which takes away a person's right to a trial in court.

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